



**US Army Corps
of Engineers**

Vicksburg District
4155 Clay Street
Vicksburg, MS 39183-3435
www.mvk.usace.army.mil



Public Notice

APPLICATION NO.:	KWH-MVK-2015-471
EVALUATOR:	Ms. Kristi Hall
PHONE NO.:	(601) 631-7528
FAX NO.:	(601) 631-5459
E-MAIL:	Kristi.W.Hall@usace.army.mil
DATE:	August 18, 2015
EXPIRATION DATE:	September 7, 2015

Interested parties are hereby notified that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Vicksburg District, and the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality, are considering an application for a Department of the Army permit and State water quality certification for the work described herein. Comments should be forwarded to the Vicksburg District, Attention: CEMVK-OD-F, at the above address, and the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality, Post Office Box 8913, Little Rock, Arkansas 72219-8913, and must reach these offices by the cited expiration date.

Law Requiring a Permit: Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344), which applies to discharges of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States.

Name of Applicant:
Mr. Stephen Cain
Arkansas Electric Cooperative
Corporation
1 Cooperative Way
Little Rock, Arkansas 72209

Name of Agent:
Mr. Jimmy Rogers
FTN Associates, Ltd.
3 Inwood Circle, Suite 220
Little Rock, Arkansas 72211

Location of Work: Section 12, Township 16 South- Range 13 West, Latitude 33.3402, Longitude -92.3984, within the Caney Creek watershed part of the Lower Ouachita River Drainage Basin (8-digit USGS HUC 08040201), Calhoun County, Arkansas.

Description of Work: (See enclosed map and drawings.)

The following descriptions of the proposed project and associated impacts are based upon information provided by the applicant.

The applicant is applying for a Department of the Army permit to conduct regulated activities in jurisdictional wetlands for the purpose of constructing a utility switching station which would provide reliable electricity for the area.

The proposed work would include the construction of a utility switching station for a 115 kilovolt electrical transmission line. The project would include fencing and an access road. The total project area filled would be approximately 1.6 acres of forested wetlands. Approximately 4,700 cubic yards of clean fill would be required to construct a pad and access road.

The vegetative communities within the project area are dominated by scrub-shrub wetland previously in pine silviculture dominated by the following species: loblolly pine, groundsel, early St. John's-wort, saw-toothed blackberry, broom-sedge, Vasey's grass, plowman's-wort, brownish beak sedge, and short-bristle horned beak sedge. Soil within the project site consists of Amy silt loam, Guyton soils, and Savannah fine sandy loam all classified as hydric by the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS).

The applicant proposes to mitigate for the unavoidable loss of jurisdictional impacts through an approved mitigation bank.

Upon reviewing this notice, you should write to this office to provide your opinion of the impacts this work will have on the natural and human environment and address any mitigation you believe is necessary to offset these impacts. Other comments are welcome, but the above information will further our review of the applicant's plan as proposed. Comments of a general nature are not as helpful as those specific to the impacts of the subject project.

State Water Quality Permit: The State Pollution Control Agency must certify that the described work will comply with the State's water quality standards and effluent limitations before a Corps permit is issued.

Cultural Resources: The Regulatory Archaeologist has reviewed the latest published version of the National Register of Historic Places, state lists of properties determined eligible, and other sources of information. The following is current knowledge of the presence or absence of historic properties and the effects of the proposed undertaking upon these properties. The permit area is composed (entirely) of low-lying wetlands with no existing or subsided natural levee landforms: and therefore, has a very low potential for yielding unidentified cultural deposits that may be eligible for the National Register of Historic Places.

Endangered Species: Our initial finding is that the proposed work would not affect the following endangered species or their critical habitats: Ouachita rock-pocketbook, pink mucket, red-cockaded woodpecker, winged mapleleaf, rabbits foot, bald eagle and spectaclecase. This proposal is being coordinated

with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and any comments regarding endangered species or their critical habitat would be addressed in our evaluation of the described work.

Flood Plain: In accordance with 44 CFR Part 60 (Flood Plain Management and Use), participating communities are required to review all proposed development to determine if a flood plain development permit is required. Flood plain administrators should review the proposed development described in this public notice and apprise this office of any flood plain development permit requirements. The project is completely located within the 100 year floodplain.

Evaluation Factors: The decision whether or not to issue a permit will be based upon an evaluation of the probable impact of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefits which may be expected to accrue from the proposal must be balanced against its expected adverse effects. All factors which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered; among these are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, historic values, fish and wildlife values, flood damage prevention, land use classification, navigation, recreation, water supply, water quality, energy needs, safety, food requirements and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people. Evaluation of the proposed activity will include application of the guidelines published by the Environmental Protection Agency under authority of Section 404(b) of the Clean Water Act.

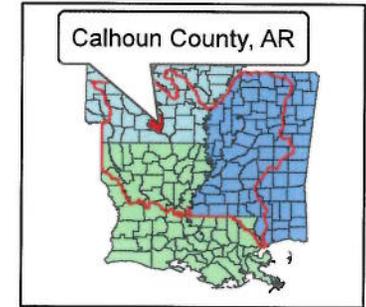
Public Involvement: The purpose of this notice is to solicit comments from the public; Federal, State, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties. These comments will be used to evaluate the impacts of this project. All comments will be considered and used to help determine whether to issue the permit, deny the permit, or issue the permit with conditions, and to help us determine the amount and type of mitigation necessary. This information will be used in our Environmental Assessment or Impact Statement. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing.

Opportunity for a Public Hearing: Any person may make a written request for a public hearing to consider this permit application. This request must be submitted by the public notice expiration date and must clearly state why a hearing is necessary. Failure of any agency or individual to comment on this notice will be interpreted to mean that there is no objection to the proposed work. Please bring this announcement to the attention of anyone you know who might be interested in this matter.

Notification of Final Permit Actions: Each month, the final permit actions from the preceding month are published on the Vicksburg District Regulatory web page. To access this information, you may follow the link from the Regulatory web page, <http://www.mvk.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory.aspx>.



**Thomas A. McCabe
Acting Chief, Evaluation Section
Regulatory Branch**



29 June 2015
MVK-2015-471
 Jurisdictional Determination
 Arkansas Electric Cooperative Corporation
 Calhoun County, Arkansas
**Preliminary
 Jurisdictional Determination**
 Prepared by
 Arel Simpson



**US Army Corps
of Engineers.**

Regulatory Branch
Enforcement Section

0 60 120 240 Feet

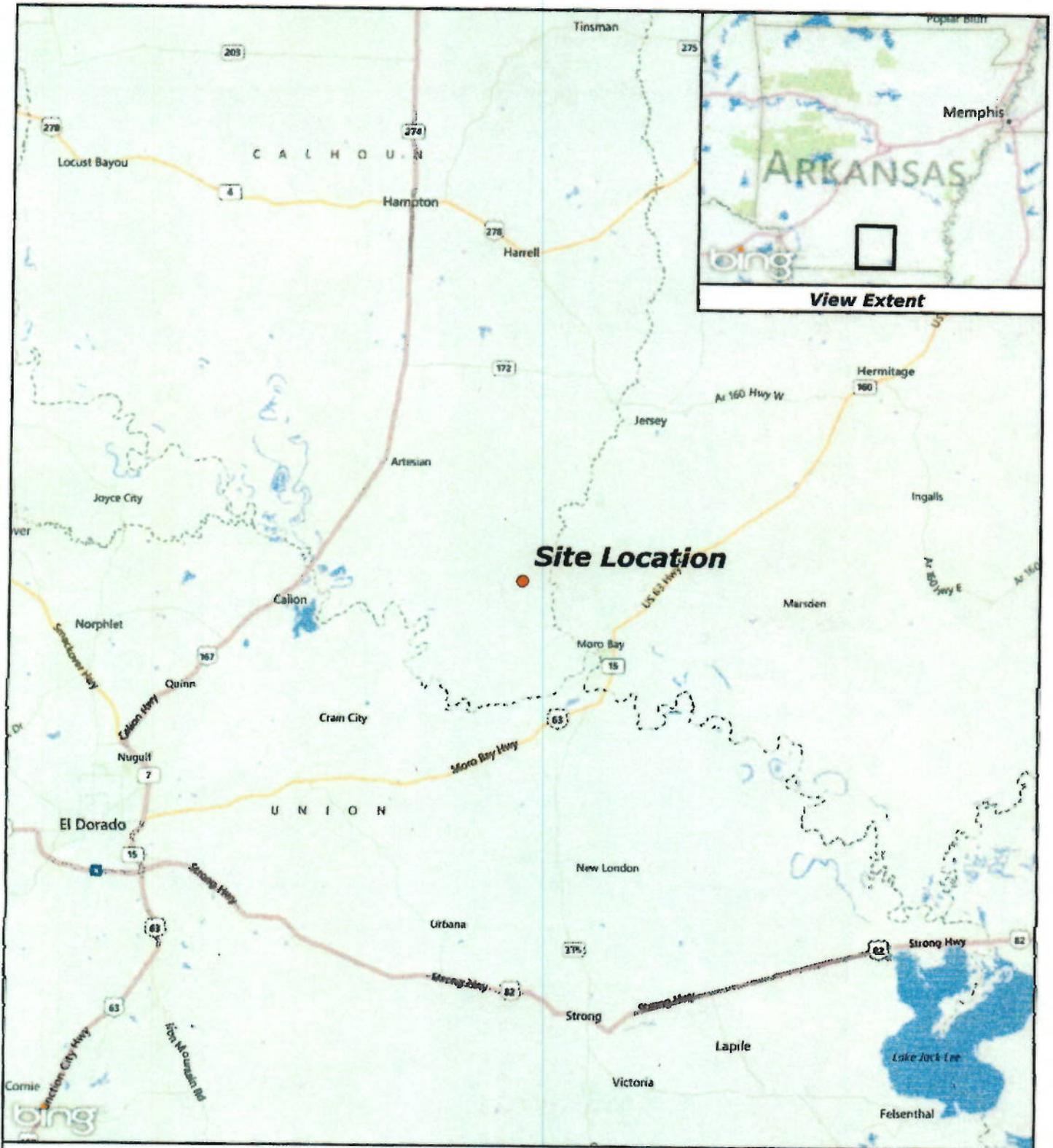
Enclosure 1

There are potential wetlands within the boundary. Any work involving the discharge of dredged or fill material into a jurisdictional water of the U.S. will require a permit.

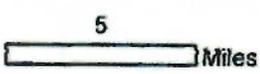
Legend

Project Boundary

Potential Wetlands



AECC Summerville 115kV Switching Station



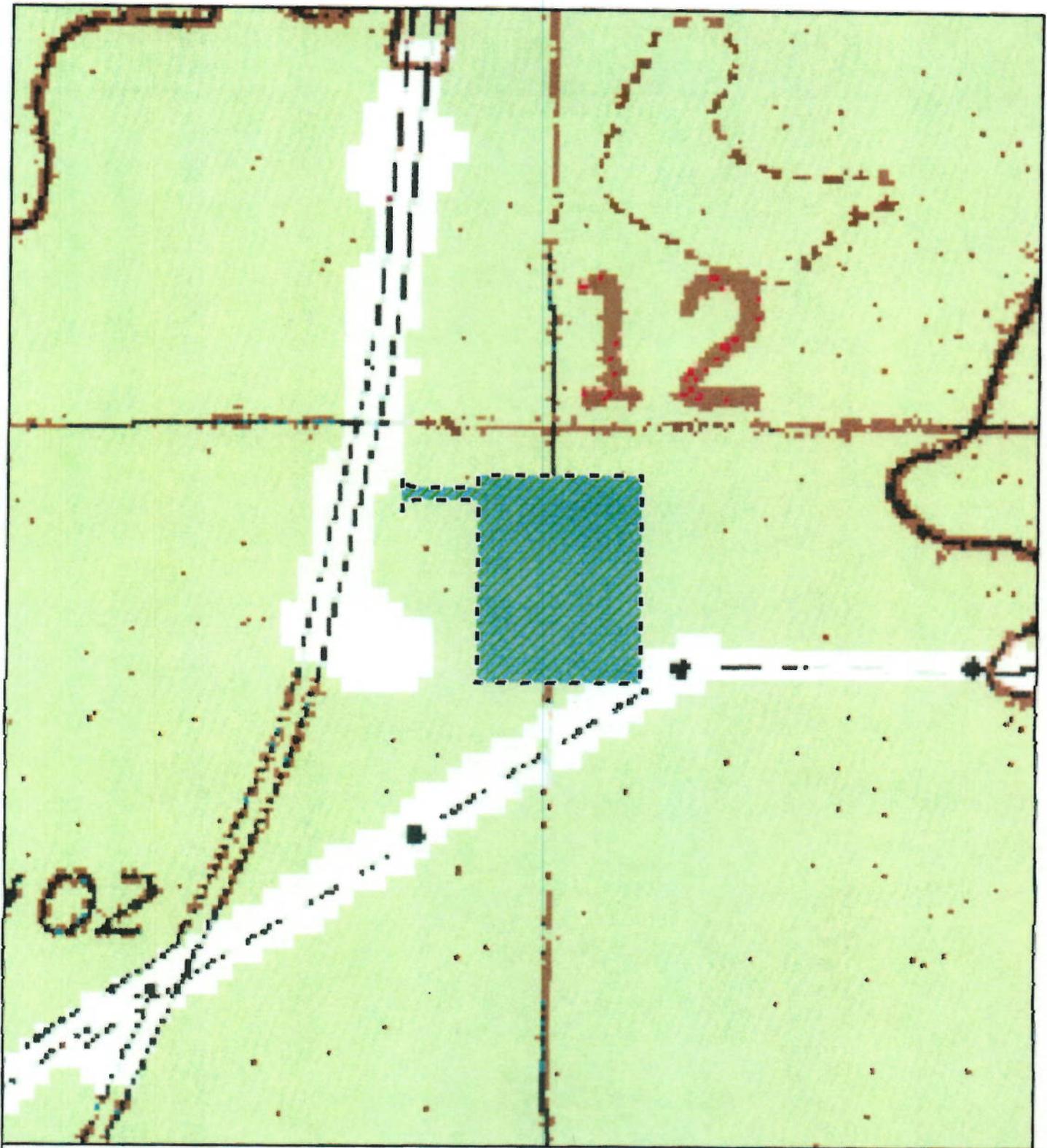
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● Site Location



Figure 1. Vicinity Map

CEMVK-OD-FE KWH-MVK-2015-471
 ARKANSAS ELECTRIC
 COOPERATIVE CORP.
 MR. STEPHEN CAIN



AECC Summerville 115kV Switching Station

200

Feet

-  Project Area
-  Project Wetlands



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Background: USGS 1:24,000 DRG

Figure 2. Map showing project area details based on the USGS topographic map.

CEMVK-OD-FE KWH-MVK-2015-471
 ARKANSAS ELECTRIC
 COOPERATIVE CORP.
 MR. STEPHEN CAIN



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AECC Summerville 115kV Switching Station

200
Feet

Project Area
Project Wetlands

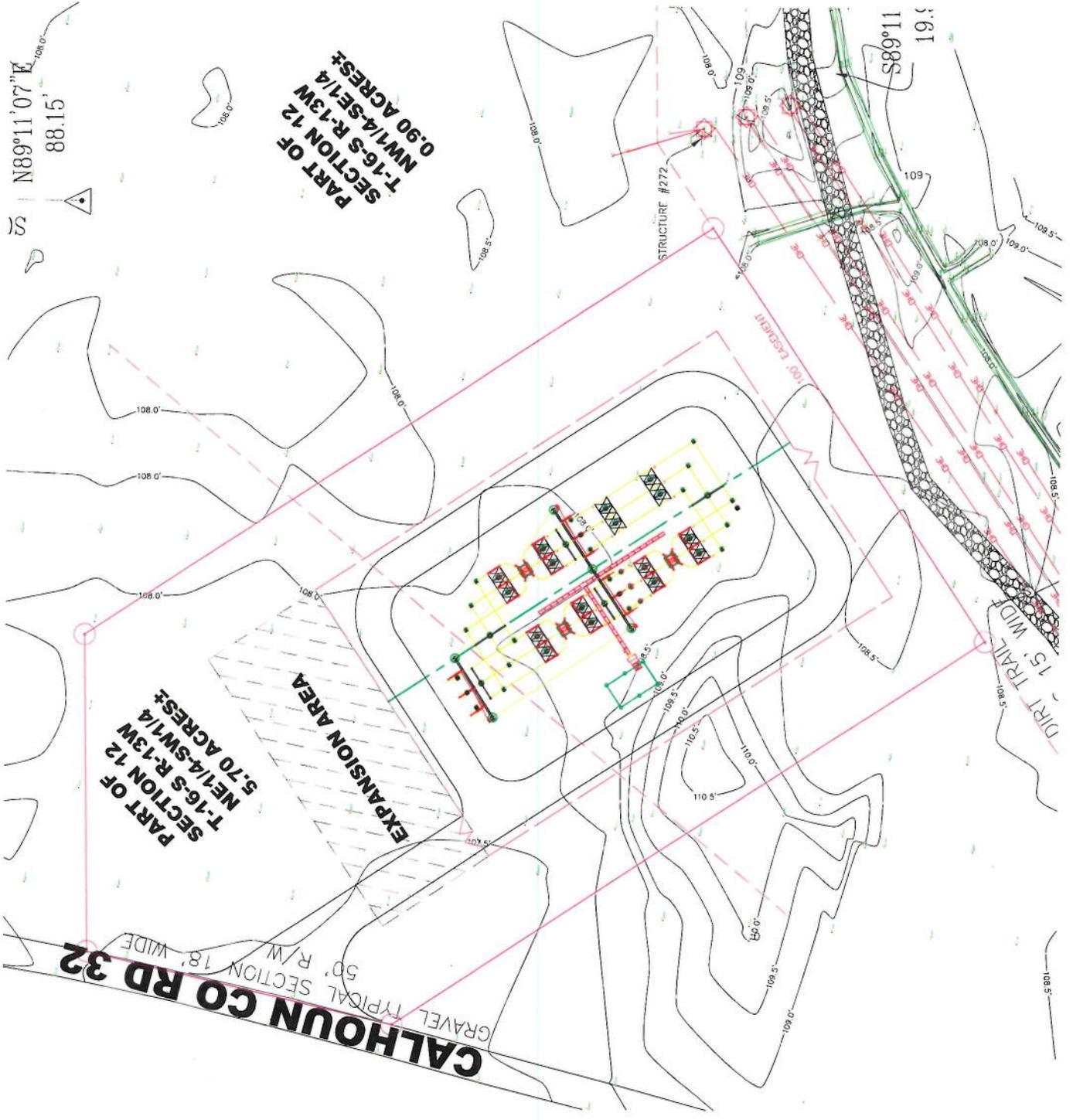


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Background: Microsoft (c) 2015

Figure 3. Map showing overview of project area details based on

CEMVK-OD-FE KWH-MVK-2015-471
ARKANSAS ELECTRIC
COOPERATIVE CORP.
MR. STEPHEN CAIN



N89°11'07"E
88.15'

**PART OF
SECTION 12
NW1/4-SE1/4
0.90 ACRES±**

**PART OF
SECTION 12
NE1/4-SW1/4
5.70 ACRES±**

EXPANSION AREA

CALHOUN CO RD 32
GRAVEL TYPICAL SECTION 18' WIDE
50' R/W

STRUCTURE #272

100' EASEMENT

DIRT TRAIL 15' WIDE

S89°11' 19.1"

**CEMVK-OD-FE KWH-MVK-2015-471
ARKANSAS ELECTRIC
COOPERATIVE CORP.
MR. STEPHEN CAIN**